

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0912

March 30, 2017

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The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations  
Room HT-2, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

As you prepare the Fiscal Year 2018 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill, and as the current round of negotiations for a resolution of the Cyprus problem are advancing, we respectfully request that you once again include language stating the United States' position that assistance appropriated for Cyprus should support measures aimed at solidifying the reunification of Cyprus and the unified government in Cyprus.

Since the Turkish invasion in 1974, the United States has supported the reunification of Cyprus. We are hopeful that the progress achieved in the latest round of negotiations is soon followed by substantial action that will justify the sense of optimism that a Cyprus settlement is within reach.

It is important for the United States to continue to play an active role in ensuring that Cyprus – a strategic partner of the United States – and the new federal structure that would arise out of a settlement will be able to cope with any political and financial challenges in order to safeguard a smooth and stable transition. Specifically, we believe that the U.S. should facilitate a successful reunification of Cyprus through assistance to Cyprus.


We want to ensure that these funds are used for needs arising from a reunified Cyprus, so that a settlement has a chance to succeed, and have obligated with appropriate advanced notification to, and consultation with, the Government of the Republic of Cyprus. We hope the Administration provides notification to the Government of the Republic of Cyprus as to the nature of the programs and the amount to be funded by the U.S. to assure maximum transparency in their allocation.

That is why we also request that you include the following language in the Fiscal Year 2018 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill:

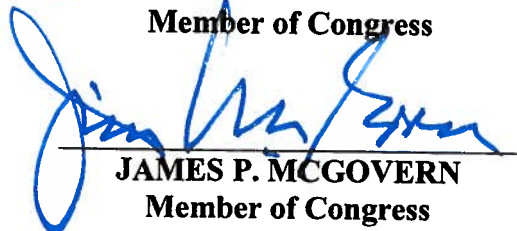
*Any assistance provided to Cyprus under this Act, in the event of reunification, should be used to contribute towards the cost of reunification, including facilitation for the settlement of the property issue, supporting and underpinning the new federal structures of a reunified island and assisting with the construction of a strong unified Cypriot economy able to cope with the new challenges, and strengthening the cooperation between the two communities on Cyprus in a way agreed to between the United States and Cyprus.*

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



**GUS M. BILIRAKIS**  
Member of Congress



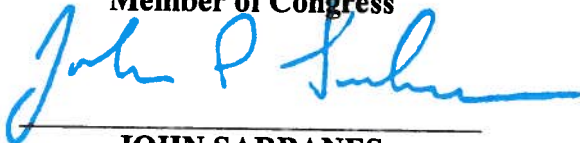
**JAMES P. MCGOVERN**  
Member of Congress



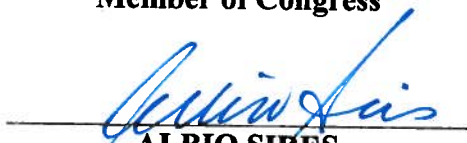
**BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER**  
Member of Congress



**DINA TITUS**  
Member of Congress



**JOHN SARBANES**  
Member of Congress



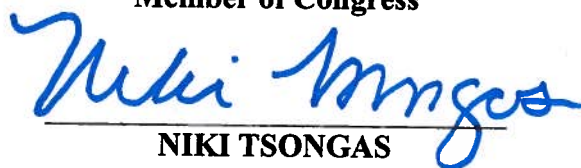
**ALBIO SIRES**  
Member of Congress



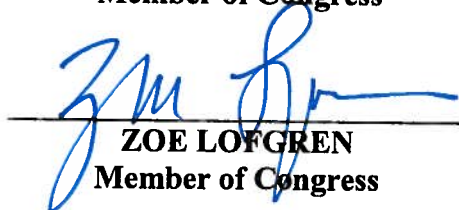
**ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**  
Member of Congress



**CAROLYN B. MALONEY**  
Member of Congress



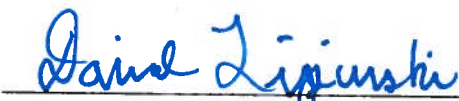
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Member of Congress



**ZOE LOFGREN**  
Member of Congress



**TED DEUTCH**  
Member of Congress



**DANIEL LIPINSKI**  
Member of Congress



**DAVID CICILLINE**  
Member of Congress



**BOBBY RUSH**  
Member of Congress